



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, January 10, 2006

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FORMER BORDER OFFICIAL SENTENCED ON IMMIGRATION RELATED CHARGE

TUCSON, Ariz. - Christopher E. Bemis, 24, formerly of Sierra Vista, Ariz., was sentenced to two years probation here today in federal district court by U.S. District Judge Frank R. Zapata for one count of Harboring an Illegal Alien. Bemis was also fined \$1000. Bemis is a former Customs and Border Protection agent who was assigned to the Naco, Ariz., Border Patrol Station.

U.S. Attorney Paul K. Charlton stated, "Law enforcement personnel who are responsible for enforcing the immigration laws of this country cannot violate the very laws they are charged with enforcing. They must be held to a higher standard in all aspects of their lives."

Bemis had been charged with one count of Harboring an Illegal Alien. In a plea agreement with the government, Bemis admitted that Mayra Isel Jimenez-Ramirez resided with him in his home in Sierra Vista, Ariz. from approximately June 2004 to February 2005. Bemis also admitted that he knew that Jimenez-Ramirez did not have authorization to enter or remain in the United States.

The investigations in this case was conducted by Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General (DHS-OIG) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution was handled by Cynthia Wood, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-0453-TUC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-006(Bemis)

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